## JUDICIAL BRANCH

BUDGET PRIORITIES, BUILDING BLOCKS, & ARPA REQUESTS

FY2023



## MISSION

... to provide the people an OPEN, FAIR, EFFICIENT, and INDEPENDENT system for the advancement of justice under the law.



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL



16 Members

Elected by each respective group











# JUDICIAL COUNCIL

(in alphabetical order, after the Chief Justice)



**Chief Justice Durrant** Supreme Court, Chair



**Judge Keith Barnes**District Court [5th]



**Judge Samuel Chiara**District Court [8th]



Judge Augustus Chin Justice Court [3rd]



Judge David Connors
District Court [2nd]



**Judge Ryan Evershed**Juvenile Court [8th]



**Judge Paul Farr**Justice Court [3rd]



Judge Michelle Heward
Juvenile Court [2nd]



Judge Mark May
Juvenile Court [3rd]



**Judge David Mortensen**Court of Appeals



**Justice Paige Petersen**Supreme Court



Judge Kara Pettit
District Court [3rd]



Margaret Plane
Utah Bar Commissioner



Judge Derek Pullan
District Court [4th]



**Judge Brook Sessions**Justice Court [4th]



**Judge Todd Shaughnessy** District Court [3rd], Vice Chair

#### FY2023 BUDGET PRIORITIES

**ONGOING** 

1 JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS — Recruit & Retain

\$3,900,000

2 Information Technology – Development & Security

\$1,122,000

- Online Court Assistance Program (OCAP) \$210,000 \*
- Microsoft Licensing
   \$72,000 \*
- Rural Courthouse Bandwidth Increases
   \$25,000 \*
- Webex Licensing \$45,000 \*
- Cybersecurity Infrastructure
   \$450,000 \*
- Cybersecurity Ransomware Insurance \$320,000

3 Public Outreach Coordinator \$120,000 \*

4 New Juvenile Court Judge – Sixth District \$449,100 \*

**5** Court Visitor Program Coordinator \$92,100

6 Statewide Treatment Court Coordinator \$97,700

\$5,780,900

\* = funded one-time in FY2022

† = plus **\$25,000 one-time** 





## Judicial Assistants

Recruit & Retain — **\$3,900,000** 

More than 40% of court FTEs are Judicial Assistants

Judicial Assistants serve a critical core function

Experiencing unsustainable 25% turnover

To reliably function, courts need well-trained & dedicated Judicial Assistants

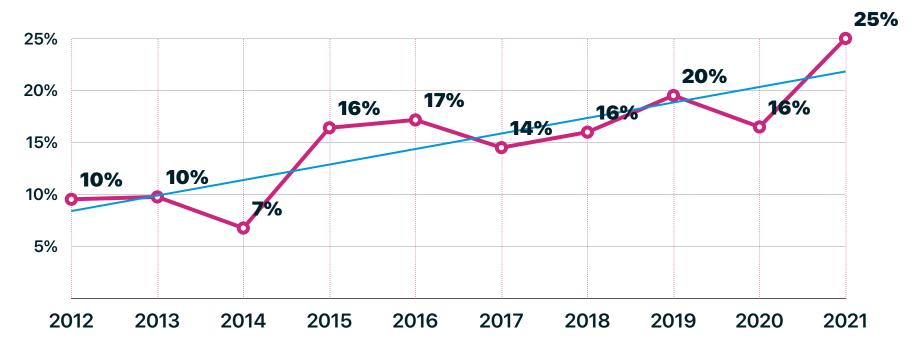




## **Judicial Assistants**

Recruit & Retain — **\$3,900,000** 

Judicial Assistant Turnover Rates: 2012-2021







# Information Technology

Development & Security — \$1,122,000

- Online Court Assistance Program \$210,000 \*
- Microsoft Licensing \$72,000 \*
- Rural Courthouse Bandwidth Increases \$25,000 \*
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- Cybersecurity Infrastructure \$450,000 \*
- · Cybersecurity Ransomware Insurance \$320,000





## **Public Outreach Coordinator**

Build Sustainable Bridges — \$120,000 \*

Establish **sustainable bridges** with marginalized communities and individuals

Increase public trust and confidence

Educate about courts and available services

Part of Office of Fairness & Accountability



\* = funded one-time in FY2022



# Juvenile Court Judge

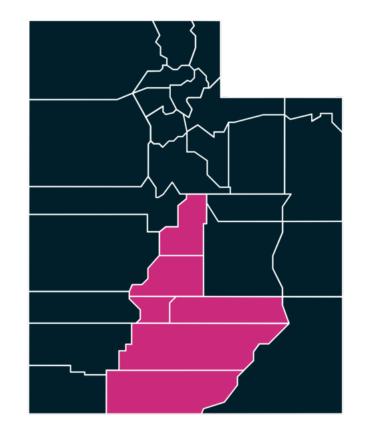
Sixth Judicial District — \$449,100 (+ \$25K one-time)

Single judge serves nearly 70,000 residents

spanning across nearly

16,000 square miles

Carrying the **caseload of**1.6 judges





Sixth District includes Sanpete, Sevier, Piute, Wayne, Garfield, and Kane Counties



## **Court Visitor Coordinator**

Guardianship Info to Judges — \$92,100

Guardianships increased 30%+ in last five years

Provides essential, verified info to judges

Careful coordination with trained volunteers to investigate the circumstances and well-being of protected persons





## **Treatment Court Coordinator**

Support Problem-Solving Courts — \$97,700

Utah has **65 problem-solving courts**: drug courts, mental health courts, veterans treatment courts, etc.

These courts support individuals' **successful exit** from the **criminal justice system** 

Coordinator will provide technical support and statewide performance data tracking



#### FY2023 BUDGET PRIORITIES

**ONGOING** 

1 JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS — Recruit & Retain

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3 Public Outreach Coordinator

\$120,000 \*

**4** New Juvenile Court Judge – Sixth District

\$449,100 <sup>†</sup>

**5** Court Visitor Program Coordinator

\$92,100

**6** Statewide Treatment Court Coordinator

\$97,700

\* = funded one-time in FY2022

† = plus **\$25,000 one-time** 

\$5,780,900



#### FY2023 ARPA REQUESTS

	ONE-TIME
1 ARPA • Access to Justice I - Appellate eFiling, Xchange, MyCase	\$1,373,400
2 ARPA • Case Backlog - Continued Acceleration of Jury Trial Work	\$1,000,000
3 ARPA • COVID-19 Supplies - Court Patron Health & Safety	\$640,000
4 ARPA • Legal Sandbox - Innovative Access to Justice	\$649,000
5 ARPA • Self-Help Forms - Accessible Family Law Case Forms	\$64,000
<b>6 ARPA • Interpreter Equipment</b> - Court in <u>YOUR</u> Language	\$97,000
7 ARPA • Eviction Court - Eviction Case Court Facilitators	\$166,000
8 ARPA • Public Outreach - Stay Connected to the Public	\$30,000
9 ARPA • Access to Justice II - Juvenile, QR Codes, Hearing Portal	\$1,881,500
	\$5,900,900





## ARPA · Access to Justice I

Court Systems Improvements — \$1,373,400

- Appellate eFiling \$593,400
- ePayments Expansion \$475,000
- · Xchange \$125,000
- MyCase Payments \$180,000

Improvements to create a more robust, resilient, efficient, and flexible state judiciary





## ARPA · Case Backlog

Accelerate Jury Trial Work — \$1,000,000

Provide accelerated access to court

Capably address COVID-related case backlogs, including jury trial work

Additional funding to pay for such things as **necessary** senior judge time and support staff





# ARPA - COVID Supplies Court Patron Health & Safety — \$640,000

Funding for ongoing expenditures related to masks, sanitizer, filters, and other supplies to reduce spread of COVID-19 in courts

Extends funding through the end of FY2023





## ARPA · Legal Sandbox

Innovative Access to Justice — \$649,000

Represents two years of funding for the Supreme Court's

Office of Legal Services Innovation

Oversight of Legal Sandbox participants

Enable more Utahns to obtain necessary legal

assistance from new and accessible providers





# ARPA · Self-Help Forms

Family Law Forms Creation — \$64,000

Attorney-crafted forms for family law cases

Utah individuals and families file 20,000+ domestic

cases each year

Forms will be accessible through any device, including phones





# ARPA · Interpreter Equipment

Court in YOUR Language — \$97,000

Purchase 72 sets of interpreting equipment for each district and juvenile courtroom across the state

Provides **effective interpretation services** from anywhere in the courtroom





# ARPA - Eviction Court

Eviction Court Facilitators — \$166,000

Two time-limited eviction court facilitators based in Salt Lake

County to **help reduce homelessness** from eviction

Explain options in eviction cases

Educate about and apply for rental assistance





## ARPA - Public Outreach

Stay Connected to the Public — \$30,000

Produce and distribute **educational & promotional videos** and **targeted social media ads** about court resources and processes,
including automatic expungement

Contract with a temporary Graphic Designer/Content Creator





## ARPA · Access to Justice II

Court Systems Improvements II — \$1,881,500

- Juvenile Pro Se eFiling & Digital Signing \$125,000
- · Responsive Juvenile CMS (CARE) \$650,000
- · COVID-19 Workspace Adaptations \$826,500
- QR Codes on Court Documents \$160,000
- Public Court Hearings Portal \$120,000

Improvements to create a more robust, resilient, efficient, and flexible state judiciary





# Reallocating Richfield Bond

Wasatch County Justice Center — \$219,155

Richfield Courthouse construction bond retires FY2023

The Courts leases space from Wasatch County for a courtroom in Heber City; an additional courtroom is necessary and has been on priority list since 2012

Bond reallocation would allow Courts to work with Wasatch County and cover lease of additional courtroom



# PERFORMANCE

Time to Disposition, Clearance Rates, Age of Cases

2011 - Current

www.utcourts.gov/performancemeasures/

Caseloads: Appellate, District, Juvenile, and Justice

1997 - Current

www.utcourts.gov/stats/

